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Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Today's prayer will be offered by our guest Chaplain, Rev. Ron Schoenfeldt, McComb Church of the Nazarene, McComb, MS. He is a guest of our majority leader, Senator LOTT.

PRAYER

The guest Chaplain, Rev. Ron Schoenfeldt, McComb Church of the Nazarene, McComb, MS, offered the following prayer:

Let us unite our hearts in prayer.

O Heavenly Father, maker of Heaven and Earth and ruler over all nations, we acknowledge our dependence and reliance upon You. From the founding days of our beloved Nation You, O Lord, have been the author of liberty.

We have seen in the early days of the leadership of Congress their firm belief in the protection of Your divine providence and where they mutually pledged to each other their very lives, fortunes, and their sacred honor. We confess today it is easy to take for granted these men and women in their elected positions of the Senate.

Therefore, we ask You, O Lord, to help them to understand the times to know what to do. In this day and age when cynicism and disillusionment of life are running rampant, bless the Senate to provide hope and vision to this Nation which still remains the keystone in the arch of democracy.

May this session today realize the help and hand of our Father to shape the future so America can remain great and strong. May You bestow grace, wisdom, and courage today upon these Senators who proclaim the motto: "In God we trust." For this we ask in the name of Christ Jesus, our Lord. Amen.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The able majority leader, Senator LOTT of Mississippi, is recognized.

Mr. LOTT. Thank you, Mr. President.

THE GUEST CHAPLAIN

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, we are honored this morning to have had today's opening prayer delivered by Rev. Ron Schoenfeldt, senior pastor of the McComb Church of the Nazarene in McComb, MS. I am very pleased to have Reverend Schoenfeldt here today, because he is highly well-known and respected in McComb for outreach work, such as his monthly nursing home ministry and work with area athletic programs.

I know Reverend Schoenfeldt wanted to open the Senate with a prayer on his 40th birthday. We are honored to have him do so.

I thank the Chaplain for all the work he does and allowing us to have this guest.

I thank Reverend Schoenfeldt for taking the time to come here today to pray for this institution and our country. I also commend him for his fine work in the McComb Church of the Nazarene and wish him continued success and happiness. Thank you very much, Reverend Schoenfeldt.

SCHEDULE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, this morning, the Senate will debate the nomination of Ronald Lee Gilman, of Tennessee, to be a U.S. circuit judge for the sixth circuit. At the conclusion of debate, at approximately 9:40 a.m., the Senate will conduct a rollcall vote on the confirmation of the nomination. Following that vote, the Senate will debate the conference report to accompany H.R. 1119, the Department of Defense authorization bill, for up to 4 hours, as under the previous order. So

we assume then that vote will occur on or about 2 o'clock. Also under the order, a vote on the adoption of the conference report will occur at the expiration of time. Again, we assume that will be around 2 o'clock.

Amtrak reform, D.C. appropriations bill, the FDA reform conference report, the intelligence authorization conference report and any other additional legislative or executive items that can be cleared will be taken up. I understand that we are just about ready to call up the D.C. appropriations bill. I think that there was an FDA conference report yesterday. Hopefully, they resolved their problems. After the DOD authorization bill, we then should be able to move to the intelligence conference report. We will also continue to try to move Executive Calendar nominations. I believe yesterday we moved about 20 nominations. We will have a vote this morning on Mr. Gilman to be a sixth circuit court judge. We should expect to have further votes during the day in addition to the two at 9:40 a.m. and approximately 2 o'clock. We will advise Members when a time is set for future votes. I yield the floor, Mr. President.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BROWNBACK). Under the previous order, the leader time is reserved.

Mr. CRAIG addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Idaho is recognized.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, aside from the business at hand, I ask unanimous consent that Janice Nielsen, a legislative fellow who works in my office, be granted the privilege of the floor for the duration of the debate and vote on the conference report to accompany H.R. 1119, the Department of Defense authorization bill.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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